gvf/m, w/t

JFK assassination records appeals Harold Weisberg 11/1/79
Arbitrary and capricious withholding
Withholding FBI names
Withholding what the FBI itself disclosed

A paragraph holding the names of two FBI agents is withheld from 62-109060-3076.

LBJ's special assistant, Walter Jenkins, informed Martha Deloach that a friend had been told by an FBI agent, of whom he had accurate details, that Oswald had been an FBI informant. This SA had been transferred to Dallas from New Orleans after getting in trouble over a woman in the French Quarter. Of three transferees, two were considered relevant. Although in the text their names are obliterated in the entire withheld paragraph, their names are disclosed in the filing of copies in their personnel files. One is Richard E. Harrison and from what long has been in the public domain, the correct one is Will Hayden Griffin. In fact, in the next serial Jenkins is quoted as calling this an old rumor.

If what is withheld about Griffin had not been in the public domain, the FBI itself disclosed this in other records relating to its investigation of Jenkins' report.

Here the arbitrary and capricious and otherwise improper withholding of the text can, in the future, be harmful to Harrison if one finds this record and does not have all the other scattered ones. Moreover, as you know, because I provided you with a copy of his letter, Director Kelley stated that in historical cases FBI names should and would not be withheld. This was long before the JFK records were processed.

Interestingly enough all else in the reports is accurate, according to the FBI. Only the statement that Oswald was an informant, it claims, is not accurate.